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said axial direction defining a thrust direction for said leveler bar.

Claims 46-64 (Canceled).

65. (Previously Presented) A method for at least partially sealing a leveler door opening of a coke oven chamber during the leveling process comprising:

- a. providing a housing having a first end opening at least partially connectable to the leveler door opening;
- b. providing a leveler bar;
- c. moving and at least partially guiding said leveler bar at least partially through said housing and said leveler door;
- d. monitoring gas flow through said leveler door opening; and,
- e. at least partially regulating exhaustion of gas substantially comprising air from said housing by measuring a flow of gas through the leveler door opening and controlling a rate of said gas exhaustion from said housing in order that there is effectively no gas flow through said leveler door opening while said leveler bar moves through said leveler door opening.

Claim 66 (Canceled).

67. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 65, wherein said leveler bar includes at least two side segments and at least one cross segment connecting said two side segments.

Claims 68-70 (Canceled).

71. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in 65, including the step of at least partially directing said exhausted gas into an adjacent coke oven chamber.

72. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim <sup>65</sup>66, including a sealing arrangement to inhibit gas flow between said housing and said leveler bar, said seal arrangement includes at least two sealing plates, at least one sealing strip, and combinations thereof.